INSTRUCTION MANUAL

M59/66 Yugoslavian SKS - 7.62 X 39 mm Semi-Automatic Rifle

WARNING: Before using this firearm, read carefully and follow these instructions.

Clean barrel and action before firing this rifle. Always check for barrel obstructions.

This instruction manual contains important warnings which should be read and understood before using firearms. This instruction manual should always accompany this firearm and be transferred with it upon change of ownership.

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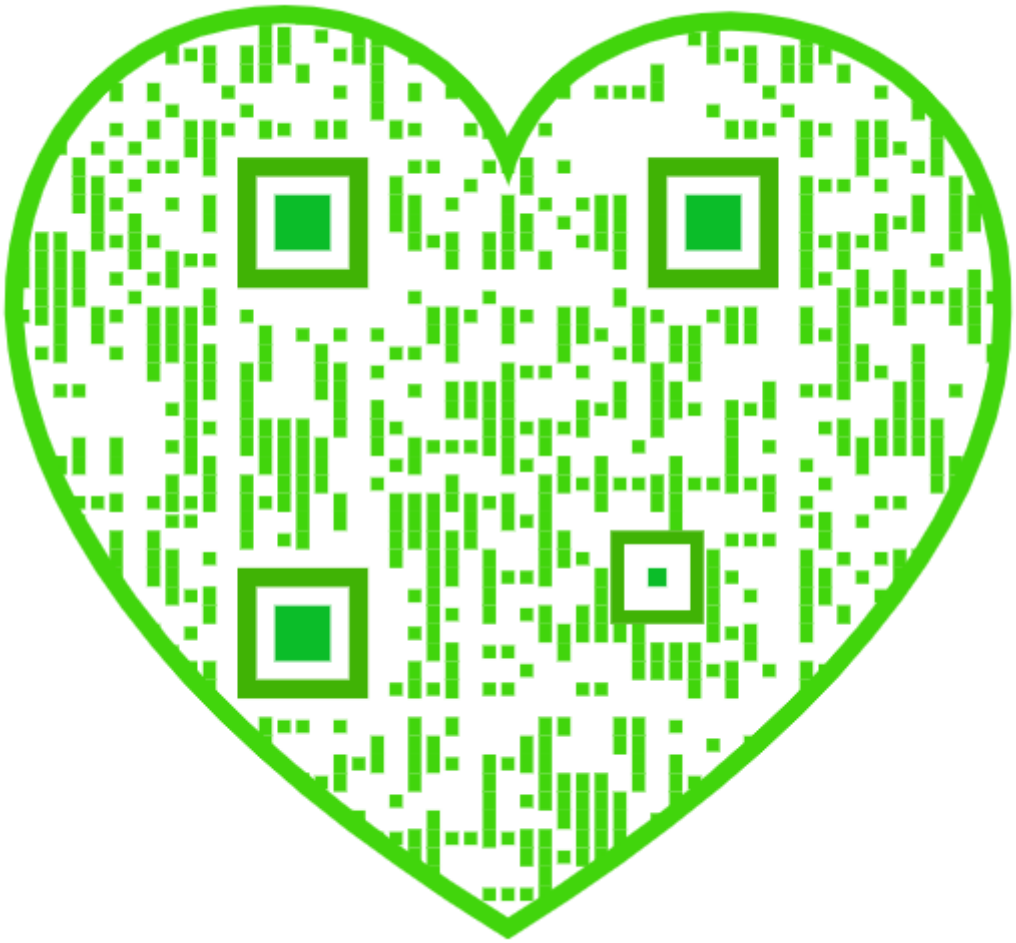

CAUTION!

Failure to read and understand the warnings in this booklet may result in serious injury to you or others, as well as damage to your firearm or other property. Please take note of the warnings on gun handling printed here for your protection and safety before you attempt to use this firearm.

1. Do not rely on this or any gun's safety. Always treat this or any gun as if it were loaded and ready to fire.

2. Never cross a fence, jump a ditch, climb a tree or hand this firearm to anyone in a loaded condition.

3. Never handle this rifle or any firearm without first opening it yourself to check to see if it is loaded.

4. Never load this firearm or any firearm until you are ready to use it in a legitimate hunting area or designated target shooting area.

5. Keep this firearm or any firearm and ammunition separate from each other and in a locked storage container. Do not store this rifle in a loaded condition.

6. Always wear ear and eye protection when shooting this or any firearm.

7. Don't start shooting this firearm or any firearm unless you are absolutely sure of your target and what lies beyond your target.

8. Know the maximum range of your firearm.

9. Take care to always point the muzzle of this rifle or any firearm in a safe direction. Always be aware of where this rifle's muzzle is in relation to yourself and your shooting/hunting companions.

10. Always be sure to check the barrel of this rifle to make sure it is clear of obstructions such as ice, snow, dirt, etc., and only use and carry ammunition specifically designed and intended for use in this firearm.

WARNING

Use only original, high quality, currently manufactured ammunition in this firearm. Make sure the ammunition you purchase is of the correct caliber for which this rife is chambered. You will find the caliber of this firearm inscribed on the receiver. Never use ammunition of any other caliber. The caliber of this rifle is: 7.62 x 39 mm M43 and is also known as 7.62 x 39 Russian Short or 7.62 x 39 Type 56. Various manufacturers and importers of ammunition market this caliber in the United States.

The use of handloaded, reloaded or other non-standard ammunition will void all warranties.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

SKS Semi-Automatic Sporting Rifle (Fig. 1)

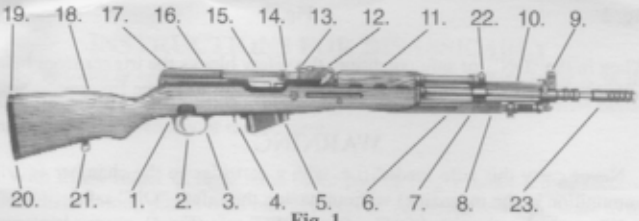

Fig. 1

1. Safety
2. Trigger
3. Trigger Guard
4. Magazine Release Catch
5. Magazine
6. Bayonet
7. Barrel
8. Cleaning Rod
9. Front Sight Group
10. Flip-Up Grenade Sight
11. Upper Handguard with Gas Cylinder
12. Rear Sight
13. Bolt Handle
14. Extractor
15. Bolt & Bolt Carrier Assembly
16. Receiver Cover
17. Receiver Retaining
18. Stock
19. Butt Plate
20. Butt Trap
21. Rear Sling Swivel
22. Gas Shut-Off (for Single Shot or Launcher Use)
23. NATO Standard 22mm Grenade Launcher

SAFETY

The manual safety lever is located on the right side of the rear trigger guard bow. It is "ON" safe when the lever is in the top position (Fig.2). It is "OFF" or in the ready to fire position when the lever is in the lower position, up against the inside face of the rear trigger guard bow (Fig. 3).

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

When in the "ON", or safe condition, the safety blocks the trigger from being pulled back enough to release the hammer and discharge the firearm.

WARNING

Never carry this rifle loaded (i.e. with a cartridge in the chamber or with ammunition in the magazine) without having the safety "ON" safe!

When placing the rifle "ON" safe or "OFF" safe (Fig 4), always keep your fingers off the trigger and point the muzzle in a safe direction.

Fig. 4

Be sure your rifle is clean and free of all grease and other preservatives and that your ammunition is of the correct type and caliber for this rifle.

CHARGING THE RIFLE AND FIRING THE RIFLE

To chamber the first round, put the rifle on safety by pushing the safety lever with the index finger up until the lever swings into its uppermost position at the top of the trigger guard.

Grasp the bolt handle and pull smartly to the rear of the receiver as far as it will go and then release it to chamber the first round.

Do not ride the bolt handle down when chambering a cartridge.

The rifle is now loaded. By rotating the safety lever down and to the rear of the trigger guard the rifle is now "OFF" safety and may be fired. Gas pressure from the firing of the cartridge will perform the work of extraction, ejection and feeding of the ammunition until all rounds are expended or until a cessation of firing is required by the user. If any ammunition is contained in the chamber or magazine of the rifle it must be immediately placed "ON" safe before unloading operations can commerce.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISASSEMBLY

Be absolutely certain that this rifle is unloaded, the safety lever is in the "ON" safe position and the magazine has been removed from the rifle before engaging in disassembly of this firearm.

1. With index finger of right hand place pad of finger under tab of receiver cover dismounting pin on right rear of receiver. Applying some pressure to the tab, force this up and out of its detent while pressing on the rear of the cover with the thumb of the left hand (Fig. 5).

Fig. 5

Rotate the receiver cover pin tab up 90 degrees and work it out to the right (Fig. 6).

Fig. 6

This piece will not come out of the receiver and DO NOT attempt to remove it completely from the receiver. The receiver cover will now be released from the rear of the receiver (Fig 7). Place this part on a clean, dry surface.

Fig. 7

2. Remove the recoil spring and spring guide from the bolt assembly (Fig 8).

Fig. 8

3. Remove the bolt assembly by grasping the bolt handle and pulling this part back to the rear and out of the receiver (Fig. 9).

Fig. 9

4. Bolt will be left in the bolt way of the receiver. With thumb and forefinger lift the bolt out of the bolt way and place on a clean dry surface with the other parts (Fig. 10).

Fig. 10

5. To remove the gas piston guide tube assembly, take the point of a punch or a cartridge and place the point in the hole of the gas tube assembly lever on the right side of the rear sight base (Fig. 11). Carefully pry this part up until it reaches the end of its motion, but DO NOT PRY IT UP PAST ITS GROOVE IN THE REAR SIGHT BASE.

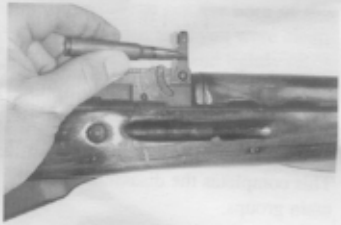

Fig. 11

6. Grasping the rear of the upper handguard carefully work the gas piston rod tube/upper handguard assembly up and off the barrel of the rifle (Fig. 12). If the gas piston is difficult to remove from the tube assembly, use a pin punch

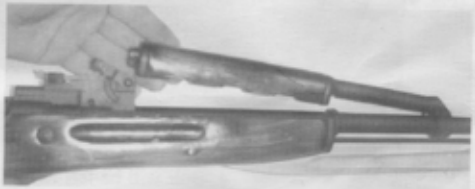

Fig. 12

or tip of bullet to gently push the gas piston tube forward and out of the gas piston rod tube/upper handguard assembly (Fig. 13).

Fig. 13a

Fig. 13b

This completes the disassembly of the rifle to allow for proper cleaning of its main groups.

REASSEMBLY

To reassemble the rifle, simply reverse the disassembly sequence. To make this job less confusing, we recommend the user pay close attention to the location and position of each component part during the disassembly procedure.

CLEANING

Although this rife has been provided with a field expedient cleaning road and tool kit, any .30 caliber cleaning kit and cleaning brushes will work to properly clean the SKS. We recommend the use of proper bore solvents and light weapons lubricating oil to service the rifle.

After a day's shooting, field strip the rifle as described and affix a brush to a cleaning rod. Dip the brush in bore solvent and vigorously scrub the bore from the breech end (rear) of the barrel. Brush out the bore at least ten times. Remove the bore brush from the cleaning rod and place a dry patch on its jag tip or loop end. Carefully push the patched rod through the bore so the rod twists along the curvature of the rifling. The patch will come out black. Now, with a clean, bore solvent—wetted patch, carefully push this patch and subsequent patches through the bore until a patch is almost clean. Dry out the bore with dry patches and with a clean, oil— soaked patch carefully oil the bore. Hold the rifle upside down so a little oil will enter the gas port of the barrel.

Now, take the gas piston and clean off the end of this piston with a tooth brush or a mild stainless steel "tooth brush" in order to remove carbon fouling from this part and then clean the whole gas piston with a bore cleaner—soaked patch. Dry this part off completely and place on a clean, dry surface.

Take the gas piston guide tube/upper handguard assembly and with patches and bore cleaner and a shortened cleaning rod clean out the bore of this tube. This part will rust if not promptly cleaned. Clean as if you were cleaning the bore of your rifle. Dry off the bore cleaning solvent and lightly oil.

Inspect the bolt and bolt carrier. These parts will have a light film of carbon on the front of them. Clean this carbon fouling off with bore cleaner and a tooth brush, then lightly oil.

Pay attention to the chamber area of this rifle. Take a .45 caliber pistol brush, place on the end of a shortened cleaning rod and rotate the brush in the chamber to break loose any carbon fouling in the chamber. Then wet a patch with bore solvent and wrap around the brush, insert into the chamber and clean out the loosened carbon fouling. Take a clean patch and wrap around the brush and dry out any traces of bore solvent. DO NOT OIL THE CHAMBER!

SIGHT ADJUSTMENT

Adjustment of the sight has been done at the factory. Due to fluctuations in ammunition on a lot-to-lot basis, it may become necessary to adjust the sights of your rifle.

To adjust the front sight, take the front sight adjustment key from your tool kit and insert the forked end into the hole in the front sight hood. Locate the forks of the tool onto the flats of the front sight post. To move the bullet's impact on the target down turn the key counter clockwise. To move the bullet's impact up turn the key clockwise.

The rear sight is of the open notch military type with adjustments available from 100 to 1000 meters (110 to 1100 yards approx.). Elevation adjustment is effected by depressing the two spring loaded plungers on either side of the elevation slide and sliding this piece froward to elevate the sight. A 300 meter (330 yard) battle sight has been provided. Merely slide the elevation directly to the rear of the sight leaf until it stops to set the "battle sight".

SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber: 7.62 x 39mm

Muzzle Velocity: 2,440 feet per second

Rear Sight: graduated from 100 to 1,000 meters

Weight: 7 pounds (approx.)

Overall Length: 39.5 inches

Barrel Length: 16.5 inches

Capacity of Magazine: 10 rounds

These M-59 rifles were recently discovered still in their original wooden crates as shipped from the famous Zastava State Arsenal to the Yugoslavian military over 40 years ago! Carefully stored in packing grease and never issued, each rifle is a beautifully preserved example of classic European craftsmanship at its best.

While other SKS rifles sport stamped receivers, short, non-descript stocks, and a finish quality which emphasizes economy over aesthetics, the M-59 exhibits the same quality craftsmanship, deep bluing, and rich oil stock finish seen on the M-48 Mauser rifles. Fitted with an integral NATO spec. grenade launcher, flip-up grenade sight, hooded front and notched rear rifle sights, and 11.5" blade bayonet, this is the rarest and smallest production variant of the SKS-type rifle ever made. Milled and machined parts, durable hardwood furniture, and 'as new' condition make this hard-to-find rifle a breed apart from Chinese SKS rifles and a true bargain for collector and sportsman alike.

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